

An Inspector Calls: An EMC Study Guide



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Text

Edited by Sabrina Broadbent
Written by Sabrina Broadbent and Tim Seward

Video

Produced by Michael Simons
Camera Chris Bryant and Martyn Gibson
Sound John Payne

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All page references refer to the Longman edition of the play.

Responsibility

Before you start reading *An Inspector Calls*, here are two activities which introduce some of the ideas about responsibility and morality explored in the play.

Individuals and society

This activity is to get you thinking about whether each of us has any responsibilities to others living in our society.

■ Look at the following statements. Alone, decide your views on each statement by ticking the column alongside. Then discuss each of the statements with your neighbour.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
There cannot be a better society; this is all there is					
We don't live alone, we live in a community					
There is no such thing as society					
We are responsible for each other					
Everyone should look after themselves					
We are all connected to one another					
All this talk about 'community' is rubbish					
What we all think and say and do affects the lives of others					

Doing the right thing

This is a multiple choice activity to get you thinking about the moral choices we all have and whether there is a right and a wrong way to act.

■ Alone, circle the action you would take in each of these situations. Then talk in a small group about the following:

- is there is a right or a wrong thing to do in each situation?
- are there situations where it would be difficult for you to do the right thing?

● When you have finished your discussion, feedback as a whole class on the issue of whether or not people in a community have any responsibility for each other.

1. You see two primary aged children shoving another child against the wall. A fight is obviously going to begin. Do you:
 - a) ignore them because you don't know what has been going on
 - b) go up to them and try to stop the fight before it starts
 - c) tell an adult that you think a young child is about to get beaten up

2. Someone who doesn't speak English gets on the bus and tries to ask the bus driver if the bus goes to the hospital. The bus driver is impatient and can't be bothered to make the effort to understand. Do you:
 - a) push past the person, show your pass and get on
 - b) tell the bus driver that the person wants the hospital
 - c) speak to the person and reassure them that this is the right bus for the hospital
3. An old person falls down in the street. Do you:
 - a) pass by because you are in a hurry
 - b) rush to help them
 - c) slow down so that someone else will help them first
4. There is a bottle bank near where you live but no one in your family uses it. Do you:
 - a) think nothing of it because one family's bottles won't make any difference
 - b) put a box in the kitchen and tell everyone to put the empty bottles in it
 - c) tell your family that you'll take bottles to the bank each week in return for not doing the washing up
5. A beggar asks you for money outside the station. Do you:
 - a) ignore them because you disapprove of begging
 - b) apologise for having no change
 - c) pass by because you are in a hurry
6. Your class is involved in raising money for a charity. Some class members openly take some of the money for themselves. Do you:
 - a) do nothing
 - b) try to persuade them to put it back
 - c) tell an adult in the hope that it will be dealt with by them